

**Futures: Greensboro**

Paul Blake, Beth Tanzman, and Anne Donahue joined Eric Grims and Cathy Rouse of Northeast Kingdom Human Services at a public meeting in Greensboro last Friday to listen to residents' concerns and answer questions about the proposal to locate a recovery residential program (sub-acute) in the Lakeview Inn building. It is clear that most residents of the community oppose locating the program at Lakeview Inn, and the town select board has sent a letter requesting that the program proposal be withdrawn. The Northeast Kingdom Human Services Board and the Department of Health continue to work to balance the rights of individuals with psychiatric disabilities and the needs of the town. Throughout, the leaders, staff and board of Northeast Kingdom Human Services are to be commended for their hard work in the face of very difficult circumstances.

**Futures: Burlington City Council**

State officials testifying before the Burlington City Council on Monday expressed the State's commitment to support a new inpatient psychiatric facility and the hope that the results of site review work and public discussion will allow it to be located at Fletcher Allen Health Care. Representatives of the Vermont State Employees Association also testified and voiced their opposition to that facility's co-locating with Fletcher Allen.

**Adult State Standing Committee To Meet Monday**

The Statewide Program Standing Committee for Adult Mental Health will meet on Monday. The agenda and the year's schedule of meetings are posted on the Mental Health Update webpage.

**Forensic Study Group's Report Posted**

The Forensic Mental Health Summer Work Group, established last year by a legislative appropriations bill, was charged with reviewing the following issues:

- 1) transfers between hospitals, including standards, procedures, and rights of patients;
- 2) determination of the least restrictive setting for the forensic evaluation;
- 3) disposition of the defendant if it is determined after admission that the defendant does not meet the standards for hospitalization;
- 4) legal representation of defendants and the state in hospitalization hearings; and
- 5) other issues as determined by the work group.

The group's report has been issued and is posted, with an appendix on the Mental Health Update web page.

**Upcoming Meetings**

- **Vermont State Hospital Futures Advisory Group** (currently scheduled)

- March 20, 2-4:30 p.m., Room 100, Stanley Hall, Waterbury State Office Complex.
- May 15, 2-4:30 p.m., Skylight Conference Room, Waterbury State Office Complex.
- June 26, 2- 4:30 p.m., Skylight Conference Room, Waterbury State Office Complex.
- **Futures Clinical Care Management Work Group (*Please note change of dates and locations*)**
  - March 10, 9-11 a.m., Room 107 (break-out: Room 102), Stanley Hall, Waterbury State Office Complex.
  - NOTE CHANGE: ~~April 7~~ April 28, 9-11 a.m., Skylight Conference Room, Waterbury State Office Complex.
- **Futures Residential Recovery (sub-acute) Work Group (*Please note change of locations*)**
  - February 22, 9-11 a.m., Washington County Mental Health Services Office, 9 Heaton Street, Montpelier.
  - March 15, 9-11 a.m., Washington County Mental Health Services Office, 9 Heaton Street, Montpelier.
  - April 5, 9-11 a.m., Washington County Mental Health Services Office, 9 Heaton Street, Montpelier.
  - April 26, 9-11 a.m., Washington County Mental Health Services Office, 9 Heaton Street, Montpelier.
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- **Futures Facilities Work Group (With Architecture+)**
  - February 21, 1-4 p.m., Room 3B, Health Department, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington.
  - March 3, 1-4 p.m., Room 3B, Health Department, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington.
  - March 14, 11 a.m., (Vermont Psychiatric Survivors-hosted consumer focus group), Room 3B, Health Department, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington.
  - March 14, 1-4 p.m., Room 3B, Health Department, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington.
  - April 3, 1-4 p.m., Room 3B, Health Department, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington.
  - May 22, 1-4 p.m., Room 3B, Health Department, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington.
  - June 12, all day, for presentations; various locations to be announced.
- **Vermont Council of Developmental and Mental Health Services and Local Mental Health Program Standing Committees**
  - March 24, 10 a.m.–1 p.m., statewide meeting, Chamber of Commerce Building, Berlin. The Vermont Council is sponsoring this meeting – a wonderful opportunity to recognize the work of local committees and to gain informed feedback about issues facing consumers, family members and local communities.

## **VSH Census**

The Vermont State Hospital census was 48 as of midnight Thursday night. The average census for the past 45 days was between 47 and 48.

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Questions and comments about the Mental Health Update may be directed to John Howland Jr. ([howland@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:howland@vdh.state.vt.us)). If you are reading a print version of this Update, you may find the web version at [www.healthyvermonters.info/mh/mhindex.shtml](http://www.healthyvermonters.info/mh/mhindex.shtml)

